GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2539
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2007
TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trade between India and China has picked up since the opening of Nathu La and Shipki La passes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the passes are connected by motorable roads on both sides;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the opening of these high altitude passes has helped in promoting people to people contacts;

(f) whether any further steps are proposed to increase the quantum of trade through these passes; and

g) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. During the year 2006-07 the trade through Nathula was of the volume of Rs.19,68,235/- and during the year 2007-08 upto October 2007 the trade was of the volume of Rs.27,46,745/-. The trade through Shipki La during 2005-06 was of the volume of Rs.316.26 Lakhs. However in 2006-07 the trade declined to Rs.7.01 Lakhs.

(c) & (d) Yes, Sir, the passes are connected by motorable roads on both sides.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) & (g) The trading season has been extended from 1st May to 30th November instead of 1st June to 30th September. The limit of individual transaction has been raised from Rs.25,000/- to Rs.1,00,000/- under duty free border trade. Expansion of list of commodities traded has also been proposed to the Chinese side.